

LIFE SKILLS ICT LITERACY

WRITING A BLOG



LIFE SKILLS

Writing a blog

A blog can help you:

- improve your computer skills
- organise your ideas
- share opinions and views with other people.

1 Look at the sentences and answer the questions.

Great minds think alike.

We can learn a lot sharing our ideas, opinions and views.

There's a blog for everyone.

- 1 What do you think the sentences mean?
- 2 Do you agree with the sentences? Why? / Why not?
- 3 Do you have a blog? Do you know any bloggers?

2 Look at the topics for blogs. Choose two topics you think are interesting. Share your ideas with a partner.

activities animals fashion food
life experiences music
special days and holidays sports travel

3 Read the text quickly. Complete the article with the headings in the box. Is it easy to start a blog?

- A Stay safe!
- B Think about your readers
- C Have one day for writing

4 Answer the questions.

- 1 What do you need to choose first?
- 2 Who do you need to think about?
- 3 What do platforms give you?
- 4 Before you put a blog post online, who looks at it?
- 5 Do you need to write posts every day?
- 6 What are some things we should not post online?

5 Complete the sentences with the highlighted words from the text. There are some letters to help you.

- 1 I ___ o ___ o ___ a blog about sports.
- 2 Choose a topic you like and you find i ___ e ___ e ___ i ___.
- 3 To start a blog, you need to choose a p ___ a ___ o ___.
- 4 It is a good idea to write a ___ o ___ once a week.
- 5 You need to decide on your topic and ___ e ___ i ___ , and think about your readers.
- 6 You need to be careful online. It is not safe to post p ___ s ___ a ___ e ___ i ___ like your address or phone number.



TALKING POINTS

Do you think it's a good idea to start a blog? Why? / Why not?

Do you prefer reading a blog or reading a book?



6 Listen to Katie and David talking about blogs. Choose the correct answers to complete the sentences.

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1 They are at | 2 Katie's blog is on |
| a Katie's house. | a dogs. |
| b David's house. | b cats. |
| c school. | c music. |



7 Listen again. Are the sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- 1 Katie's mum is at home.
- 2 Katie is in the living room.
- 3 Katie is studying for an exam.
- 4 Katie thinks starting a blog is difficult.
- 5 Katie likes music.
- 6 Katie wants to write a post about David's pets.

8 Match the two halves of the sentences.



USEFUL LANGUAGE

- 1 You're good at ...
 - 2 It isn't safe to ...
 - 3 Is your blog ...
 - 4 Ask people ...
 - 5 Do you want a lot of people ...
- a about music?
b to follow your blog?
c before you put photos of them online.
d put personal information online.
e using computers.

DO YOU WANT TO START A BLOG?

Do you read or **follow** any blogs? What topics do you like to read about?

How about you? Have you got a blog? Why not? Now is a good time to start if your parents agree!

Follow these quick and easy steps to start your own blog.

1 Choose a topic for your blog

The first thing you need to do is choose a topic. What do you want to blog about? Your favourite sport, music or video games? Choose a topic you feel happy to talk about and find **interesting**. You've got a topic? Now choose a title and a **design** for your blog.

2

Who's going to read your blog? Is your blog for your friends and family? Is it on a special topic you and your friends like? What is interesting about it?

3 Decide on a platform

There are different free platforms to start your blog. Most platforms give easy instructions on how to start. Some popular platforms are Blogger, Medium and WordPress. Take a look and decide!

4 Write a blog post

It can sometimes be difficult to write your first blog **post**. It's a good plan to share your ideas with close friends and family before you put your post online. Don't worry if you don't like what you put online – you can always change it later. Remember, make sure people let you use their photos or information.

5

At the beginning, you can choose a day of the week to write your blog posts. It's important to write a post every week.

6

Blogs can be fun, but never put your **personal details** online. Never write your address or telephone number. Remember, you need to stay safe online.



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PROJECT

Writing a blog

In small groups, write and design a blog post:

- Choose a blog topic and think about the design for the blog.
- Write two short blog posts about the topic.
- Decide what to include with each of the posts (a photo and a link? a video?)
- Look at the design of some other blogs on a platform.
- Design how you think the posts would look on a platform.
- Share your ideas for posts and design with another group.

Don't forget, **always** check with your parents before starting a blog. Parents can help young people under the age of 13 to set up a blog.